

Lofgren  
Meehan  
Meek (FL)  
Meeks (NY)

Moran (VA)  
Myrick  
Pallone  
Sessions

Strickland  
Sweeney  
Young (AK)

□ 1105

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 430, I was unavoidably detained in my District. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 429 and 430, I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both measures.

#### ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 278) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

##### H. RES. 278

*Resolved*, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

Committee on Government Reform: Mr. Lynch of Massachusetts, to rank after Mr. Clay of Missouri; and

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Mr. Lynch of Massachusetts, to rank after Mr. Rodriguez of Texas; and Ms. Davis of California, to rank after Mr. Udall of New Mexico.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3167, GERALD B. H. SOLOMON FREEDOM CONSOLIDATION ACT OF 2001

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 277 ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

*Resolved*, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3167) to endorse the vision of further enlargement of the NATO Alliance articulated by President George W. Bush on June 15, 2001, and by former President William J. Clinton on October 22, 1996, and for other purposes. The bill shall be considered as read for amendment. The amendment recommended by the Committee on International Relations now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of

debate on the bill, as amended, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on International Relations; (2) a further amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the Congressional Record pursuant to clause 8 of rule XVIII, if offered by Representative Lantos of California or his designee, which shall be considered as read and shall be separately debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent; and (3) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Committee on Rules met and granted a modified closed rule for consideration of the Gerald Solomon Freedom Consolidation Act. The rule provides for 1 hour of debate in the House, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on International Relations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill.

The rule provides that the amendment recommended by the Committee on International Relations now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The rule provides for consideration of only the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, if offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) or his designee, which shall be considered as read and shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent.

Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, this is a noncontroversial rule for a noncontroversial, but important, bill. The Gerald Solomon Freedom Consolidation Act endorses the work of President Bush and President Clinton to expand NATO into Eastern Europe. It also authorizes military assistance to seven potential NATO members.

Mr. Speaker, during its markup of this measure, the Committee on International Relations passed one amendment, an amendment to name H.R. 3167 after our former Committee on Rules chairman, Gerald Solomon. Chairman Solomon, who passed away the week before last, was a dear friend to all of us on the Committee on Rules, and he and Mr. Moakley, who, unfortunately, passed away earlier this year, were quite a pair together. They disagreed often, but they always did it as gentlemen and they always did it with a great deal of humor, and quite frankly, all of us miss them a lot.

While he was a Member, Chairman Solomon was also a strong advocate for

NATO. Indeed, during his last year on the Hill, he even published a book about NATO expansion. It is fitting, therefore, that we honor Mr. Solomon with this bill today.

I urge my colleagues to support this rule, as well as the underlying legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, this is a modified closed rule. It will allow for the consideration of the Gerald B. H. Solomon Freedom Consolidation Act of 2001.

As my colleague from North Carolina has described, this rule provides for 1 hour of general debate, to be equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on International Relations. This rule will permit a Democratic substitute, if offered by the committee's ranking minority member. No other amendments may be offered from the House floor.

The bill expresses the support of Congress for expanding the number of members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. It recognizes the importance of admitting seven specific nations in Central and Eastern Europe. This legislation is in keeping with the vision expressed by both President Clinton and President Bush.

I want to take this opportunity to express my sadness at the loss of former House Member and Committee on Rules chairman Jerry Solomon, who died last month of heart failure. Jerry and I often found ourselves on different sides of the issue, but we were fully united in our respect for the House of Representatives and our role in leading the Nation.

Jerry was a man of honor and integrity. He spoke his heart and he stood up for his beliefs without hesitation. It is fitting that this bill is named in his memory.

With that, I urge the adoption of the rule and of the underlying.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), the chairman of the Committee on Rules.

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Charlotte for yielding me this time, and I want to congratulate her, as well as I see my friend the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) here, the ranking minority member of the Committee on International Relations, and the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) is in the Chamber. I wanted to congratulate them.